IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly replace the claims of record with the following full set of claims:

1. (Currently amended)   A method of synthesizing a first sound signal based on a second sound signal, the first sound signal having a required first fundamental frequency and the second sound signal having a second fundamental frequency, the method comprising the steps of:

-      determining ~~of~~ required pitch bell locations in the time domain of the first sound signal, the pitch bell locations being distanced by one period of the first fundamental frequency,

-      providing ~~of~~ a plurality of pitch bells by windowing the second sound signal based on pitch bell locations in the time domain of the second sound signal, the pitch bell locations of the second sound signal being distanced by one period of the second fundamental frequency, said type of windowing being determined based on a type of said second sound signal;

-      randomly selecting one of ~~a~~ said pitch ~~bell~~ bells from the provided pitch bells for each of the required pitch bell locations, said selection being uniformly distributed among said number of provided pitch bells; and

-      performing an overlap and add operation on the selected pitch bells for synthesizing the first signal.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, whereby the second sound signal is a hybrid sound comprising a noisy and periodic component.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claims 1 ~~or 2,~~ wherein the second sound signal being a voiced fricative sound signal.

4. (Currently amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims 1, 2 or 3,~~ the second sound signal being a voiced sound signal and whereby a raised cosine is used for windowing of the second sound signal.

5. (Currently amended) The ~~method of claim 1, wherein~~ any one of the preceding claims 1, 2 or 3,, the second sound signal being an unvoiced sound signal and whereby a sine window is used for windowing of the second sound signal.

6. (Currently amended)   The method ~~of claim 1, wherein~~ of any one of the preceding claims 1 to 5, the second sound signal having spectrally alike periods, the spectrally alike periods having basically the same information content.

7. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 1, wherein~~ any one of the preceding claims 1 to 6,, the required first fundamental frequency and the second fundamental frequency being substantially the same.

8. (Currently amended) A computer program product, in particular digital storage medium, comprising program means for synthesizing of a first sound signal based on a second sound signal, the first sound signal having a required first fundamental frequency and the second sound signal having a second fundamental frequency, the program means being adapted to perform the steps of:
-          determining ~~of~~ required pitch bell locations in the time domain of the first sound signal, the pitch bell locations being distanced by one period of the first fundamental frequency,
-          providing ~~of~~ a plurality of pitch bells by windowing the second sound signal based on pitch bell locations in the time domain of the second sound signal, the pitch bell locations of the second sound signal being distanced by one period of the second fundamental frequency, said type of windowing being determined based on a type of said second sound signal;
-          randomly selecting one of a said pitch ~~bell~~ bells from the provided pitch bells for each of the required pitch bell locations; and
-          performing an overlap and add operation on the selected pitch bells for synthesizing the first signal.

9. (Currently amended) A computer system, in particular text-to-speech synthesis system, for synthesizing a first sound signal based on a second sound signal, the first sound signal having a required first fundamental frequency and the second sound signal having a second fundamental frequency, the computer system comprising:

-        means for determining ~~of~~ required pitch bell locations in the time domain of the first sound signal, the pitch bell locations being distanced by one period of the first fundamental frequency,

-        means for providing a plurality of pitch bells by windowing the second sound signal based on pitch bell locations in the time domain of the second sound signal, the pitch bell locations of the second sound signal being distanced by one period of the second fundamental frequency, said type of windowing being determined based on a type of said second signal,

-        means for randomly selecting one of ~~a~~ said pitch ~~bell~~ bells from the provided pitch bells for each of the required pitch bell locations, said selection being uniformly distributed among said number of provided pitch bells; and

-        means for performing an overlap and add operation on the selected pitch bells for synthesizing the first signal.

10. (Currently amended)   The computer system of claim 9 further comprising:

        means for storing of sound classification data, the means for storing of sound classification data being adapted to store data being indicative of an interval containing the second sound signal within an original sound signal.

11. (Currently amended)   A method for construction a synthesizing signal comprising:

        determining a plurality of pitch bell locations within an original sound signal, said locations being distanced by one period of a fundamental frequency;

        determining a plurality of pitch bells associated with each of said pitch bell locations, said pitch bells being determined by windowing said original sound signal;

determining a plurality of pitch bell locations within a signal to be synthesized ~~synthesizing signal~~, said locations being distanced by one period of a frequency associated with said synthesized signal ~~synthesizing signal~~;

randomly selecting for each of a plurality of pitch bell locations within said synthesized signal one of said pitch bells associated with said original signal; and

overlapping and adding said selected of pitch bells at said synthesized signal pitch bell locations. ~~a number of pitch bells which are overlapped and added~~, each of the pitch bells being randomly selected from a set of pitch bells which are obtained by ~~windowing of an original sound signal on pitch bell locations in the time domain of the second sound signal, the pitch bell locations being distanced by one period of the fundamental frequency.~~